

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE  
VILLAGE AT ST. BARNABAS

**HON. MELISSA A. HART**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 19, 2005*

Ms. HART. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Village at St. Barnabas on its 25th Anniversary, and recognize the exemplary performance of service that the organization provides the 4th District of Pennsylvania.

Founded in 1980 as part of the St. Barnabas Health System, the Village at St. Barnabas is currently home to 300 happily retired Pennsylvanians. The Village began as Western Pennsylvania's first retirement community. A growing senior population, living longer and healthier lives, produced a need for worry free lifestyle options. Therefore, William V. Day decided to expand the St. Barnabas Healthcare System to include a retirement community. Ground was broken on the \$16 million project in 1979 and when construction was finished, the 252 room complex was open for business. Currently, the Village at St. Barnabas complex includes a full service restaurant, a health club, indoor mall, library, crafts rooms, an auditorium and social rooms that include an English Pub and the Williamsburg room, that is reserved for special dining.

I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in honoring the Village at St. Barnabas. It is an honor to represent the Fourth Congressional District of Pennsylvania and a pleasure to salute the service of organizations like the St. Barnabas Healthcare System and the Village at St. Barnabas that make the communities that they reside in truly special.

TRIBUTE TO GAITHERSBURG

**HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 19, 2005*

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to commend the City of Gaithersburg for having recently been ranked seventeenth in the Nation on Money Magazine/CNN Money's list of "Best Places to Live."

The list ranked cities according to a number of quality-of-life criteria, accounting for economic, environmental, educational, and cultural factors. Gaithersburg excelled particularly in its access to museums and institutions of higher education, its sound environmental health, and its low elementary student-to-teacher ratio and crime rate.

To the 58,000 residents of Gaithersburg, this commendation comes as no surprise. Gaithersburg is a strong and vibrant community, blessed with an active citizenry and a devoted civic leadership in Mayor Sidney Katz, City Manager David Humpton, and its City Council members. The area has also benefited from the recent revitalization of the Olde Towne residential and commercial district, an endeavor which has highlighted the benefits of thoughtful community planning and enhanced access to cultural and recreational activities. I am confident that Gaithersburg will continue to flourish in the coming years.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to represent the people of the City of Gaithersburg in the House of Representatives, and I offer them my warmest congratulations on this honor.

COMMENDING THE ARTICLE  
"HEALTH SPENDING IN THE  
UNITED STATES AND THE REST  
OF THE INDUSTRIALIZED  
WORLD"

**HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 19, 2005*

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to draw attention to the annual comparison of health care costs in the 30 OECD member countries. I commend Gerald F. Anderson, Peter S. Hussey, Bianca K. Frogner, and Hugh R. Waters for their Health Affairs article: "Health Spending in the United States and the Rest of the Industrialized World; Examining the impact of waiting lists and litigation reveals no significant effects on the U.S. health spending differential."

Once again the United States leads the way, spending \$5,267 per capita on health care—53 percent more than the next highest country, Switzerland. The median per capita expenditure in the 30 OECD countries is a mere \$2,073, and yet none of these countries have 45 million uninsured people. Even worse, the U.S. is 17th in life expectancy among these countries. It is a travesty that the U.S. spends more than any other country and still can't provide universal coverage or break the top fifteen in life expectancy.

It is no surprise that our failure to embrace universal healthcare and our inefficient fragmented delivery system results in high spending and poor outcomes. The rest of the OECD countries have some form of national health system. It works for them, but instead of working toward that system here in the U.S., House Republicans will put legislation on the floor during their upcoming "health week" that will further demolish our health care system.

Republicans will say that universal health care means waiting lists that hold down spending. They'll claim that litigation costs here in the U.S. are the main driver of increased healthcare costs, and that we need to limit malpractice suits to lower our costs. According to the study, neither litigation costs in the U.S., nor waiting lists in other OECD countries account for a significant portion of the difference between domestic and international health care spending.

If Republicans bring Association Health Plan (AHP) and Medical Malpractice legislation to the floor next week, don't think for one second they have any desire to reduce costs, increase access or improve quality. AHPs will actually increase premiums for nearly 80 percent of affected workers. This is how the market works, Republicans pass a bill, insurance companies cash in, and patients pay more and lose important regulatory protections. Medical malpractice makes up less than 0.5 percent of health care costs in all OECD countries with tort based compensation, and damage caps and other reforms will only mean increased profits for malpractice insurance carriers, not increased justice for patients or lower premiums for doctors.

The Republicans will give lip service to health care next week, but the only real way to deal with spiraling health care costs is to follow the lead of the other 29 OECD countries and provide universal health care.

A PROCLAMATION IN MEMORY OF  
EMMA LOUISE NEY PALAVIDO

**HON. ROBERT W. NEY**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 19, 2005*

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, I hereby offer my heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of Emma Louise Ney Palavido; and

Whereas, Emma Louise Ney Palavido was born August 22, 1925 in Bellaire, Ohio; and

Whereas, Emma Louise Ney Palavido was a woman committed to her family, a devoted wife to her husband, John Palavido, and a strong role model for her three daughters, Sandy Allman, Patty Pleasant, and Debby Showalter and stepson John Palavido; and

Whereas, Emma Louise Ney Palavido was the proud and dedicated grandmother of six grandchildren and three great-grandchildren, devoting much of her later years to their activities; and

Whereas, Emma Louise Ney Palavido was an example of strength of character and courage who will be forever remembered; and

Whereas, the understanding and care which she gave to others will stand as a monument to a truly fine person. Emma Louise Ney Palavido's life and love gave joy to all who knew her.

Therefore, while I understand how words cannot express our grief at this most trying of times, I offer this token of profound sympathy to the family and friends of Emma Louise Ney Palavido.

BAHAMA INDEPENDENCE DAY

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 19, 2005*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate a special occasion for our neighbors and friends in the Bahamas. Last Sunday, July 10, marked the 32nd anniversary of the independence of the islands of the Bahamas. I join my friends of Bahamian heritage and the many citizens of that multi-island nation in celebrating the beauty and uniqueness of their homeland.

On July 10, 1973, the people of the Bahamas peacefully and successfully gained full independence within the British Commonwealth. Once a colony of the British Crown, the Bahamas has emerged as an important voice in international and regional affairs, impacting the Americas and the global community.

The Bahamian culture is an intriguing mixture of its African, European, and indigenous population. The celebrations of this island nation are welcomed festivities and commemorations of the beauty of international culture and merriment. The people truly embrace and emphasize their rich historical backgrounds, national pride, and appreciation of human nature.